

NOTES ON EDUCATION.

The school population of this country is, so far as can be ascertained at present, 14,366,158.

A friend of the Amherst Agricultural College offers free scholarship in the next Freshman class to every worthy student who may apply. The entrance examination in arithmetic, grammar, geography, United States history and algebra, to quadratic equations, will be held on the 29th of August.

The trustees of Antioch College at their annual meeting, June 19, voted not to confer the degree of A. M., in course, after 1879. And after the year 1880, that degree will be conferred upon those only who shall have sustained an examination in a course of studies to be fixed by the faculty of the college. The course will require not less than a year's study to complete it.

The total number of teachers employed in the United States—Georgia and Idaho excepted—is 249,283. The District of Columbia pays the highest average salary to male teachers—\$120 a month. Arizona has wisdom and justice enough to pay the highest salary to female teachers—\$90 a month. Nevada gives them the next highest salary—\$85. It is noticeable that the newest and least cultivated States should show the most common sense and good judgment in this matter.

The salary of the President of the Michigan University has been reduced by \$750. The salaries of all the professors of the literary and medical departments have been reduced from \$2,500 to \$2,200, except one which was reduced to \$2,400. The Regents passed a resolution to the effect that the great reduction on the President's salary was made in accordance with a resolution of the last Legislature, asking that the largest salaries especially be reduced, and that in this connection they "desired to express their high appreciation of the valuable services, efficient administration and earnest devotion to the University on the part of President Angell."

The entire income of the Yale academic department for the last school year was \$135,930 19, and the total expenditure was \$159,640 05. During the year there have been added to the Yale library, 2,500 volumes and 1,000 pamphlets by gift, and 3,500 by purchase, the gifts including 1,280 volumes of Chinese books, contributed by the Hon. Yung Wing, LLD. Examinations for the admission of candidates for Yale are held in Cincinnati as well as Chicago this year. Nearly 300 candidates presented themselves for examination at the college last Friday.

The salaries of teachers in Toledo have been severely cut. The committee of the School Board which arranged the new schedule, uses the singularly unreasonable argument that teachers oughtn't to complain of this retrenchment, because among other effects of the "hard times," laboring men with large families are glad to work for \$1 to \$1 25 a day. It would probably be useless to inform people who employ such argument, that brains have a somewhat higher value than street-cleaning or digging powers, and that the ability to instruct in a thorough and inspiring manner, from twenty to forty children every day, is a work as important as any which the world knows;—and a work which deserves the fullest possible reward. It must be said that teachers are a patient race. The sum which Toledo proposes to pay experienced teachers of seven years' service in schools is—\$475 a year!

At the recent Higher Local Examination of Cambridge University, there were 573 candidates examined at 13 centres. Originally the examination was established for women only, but a few years ago it was opened to men also, the only restriction being that candidates must be over eighteen years of age. It is singular that hardly any men have as yet been candidates; this year there are but five out of the whole number. Though Cambridge does not, like London, offer women a degree, it is believed that the Higher Local Certificate has been of very great utility, and that the examination has both had great practical value to those who look forward to teaching as their profession, and has acted as an incentive to many to keep up their school studies, and render their education more complete. The Cambridge Association for promoting the Higher Education of Women awards each year scholarships by the results of this examination, which give the holders an opportunity of continuing their studies in Cambridge. This year no fewer than ten scholarships are so offered, amounting to the value of \$250 annually for two years.

For the 51,759 pupils instructed in the Boston schools during the last financial year, the city paid about \$34 11 each. The salary committee of the School Board now propose to save about \$30,000 in salaries. The head master is allotted a salary of \$3,600, which is \$160 less than at present, provided he has served more than a year, for his first year's salary at present is \$3,300. The policy of "grading" begins with the next step, when the "junior master" is called into being, to receive \$1,440 the first year, with an annual increase of \$144 till the maximum salary of \$2,880 is reached, and with the rank of master. This is \$120 less than the present master's salary; and as in the case of the head master, a very moderate reduction. In the second grade the master is allotted a salary for the first year of \$2,580, with an annual increase of \$60, until the maximum of \$2,880 is attained. The sub-master received on starting his course \$1,980, and looks forward to an annual increase of \$60 till the maximum of \$2,280 is reached. The salary of a second sub-master is for the first year \$1,500, with an annual increase of \$60 until the reaching of the maximum of \$1,800. In the first two classes the reduction in the salary, at the maximum, is \$120; the maximum salary of the second sub-master remaining as now, except that it is now reached, by a gradual increase, in five years. In the fourth grade orders are recommended fixing the salary of the assistant principal at \$1,800, the present figure; that the salary of a first assistant be for the first year \$1,440, with an annual increase of \$36 till the maximum salary of \$1,620 is reached; that the salary of a second assistant be for the second year \$1,200, with an annual increase of \$36, till the maximum salary of \$1,360 is reached; that the salary of a third assistant be for the first year \$950, with an annual increase of \$36, till the maximum salary of \$1,140 is reached, and that the salary of a fourth assistant be for the first year \$768, with an annual increase of \$36, till the maximum salary of \$948 is reached. The maximum salary in all these cases, except the last, remains the same. In this last case there is an increase of \$48. In the schedule for the fourth and fifth grades of teachers, including great numbers of grammar and primary school-teachers, it is recommended that the salary of the first assistant be for the first year \$900, with an annual increase of \$36, till the maximum salary of \$1,050 is reached; that the salary of a second assistant be for the first year \$750, with an annual increase of \$36, till the maximum salary of \$916 is reached; and that the salary of a third and fourth assistant be for the first year \$504, with an annual increase of \$48, till the maximum salary of \$744 is reached. The saving at the maximum salary will be in the case of the first assistant, \$60; and the third and fourth assistants, \$6, while the second assistants may rejoice in an accession of \$24 to their pin-money account.

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